

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAKAR 02192 301432Z
ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 IO-13
CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 L-03 EA-07 NEA-10 /077 W
-----310802Z 053292 /11

R 301200Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8834
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BISSAU BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 2192

MONROVIA AND BRUSSELS FOR FAA

MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: POR, EAIR, ICAO, SG
SUBJ: SAL FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR)

REF: MONTREAL 0455

1. SUMMARY: GOS HAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US POSITION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAKAR 02192 301432Z

AT MONTREAL AND SOUGHT OUR SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING SENEGALESE
EFFORT TO PREVENT SAL FIR FROM BEING CARVED OUT OF EXISTING
DAKAR FIR. RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL ARE REPORTEDLY STRAINED
OVER BRAZILIAN LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF CAPE VERDE, AND FOREIGN
MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR IMPUTES POLITICAL MOTIVATION TO
CAPE VERDIAN PROPOSAL, SUGGESTING THAT SOVIETS MIGHT EVEN
BE INVOLVED. BEYOND TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS, EXTRAORDINARY

CONCERN ATTACHED TO THIS ISSUE BY SENEGAL REFLECTS TRADITIONAL GOS OPPOSITION TO BALKANIZATION OF WEST AFRICA AND CURRENT EFFORT TO MAINTAIN STRONG POSITION FOR DAKAR AS REGIONAL TRANSPORT HUB. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO LATEST GOS DEMARCHE. END SUMMARY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF CABINET YOUSSOUP SYLLA CONVOKED ME MARCH 28 TO MAKE STRONG DEMARCHE FOR CONTINUING US SUPPORT FOR SENEGAL'S EFFORT TO MAINTAIN DAKAR'S EXISTING CIVIL AVIATION FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR). SYLLA EXPRESSED GOS APPRECIATION FOR USG SUPPORT DURING RECENT ICAO DISCUSSIONS IN MONTREAL (REFTEL), BUT NOTED STEPS WERE CONTINUING TO SPLIT SENEGAL'S FIR BY CREATING NEW REGION FOR SAL, CAPE VERDE REPUBLIC. ACCORDING TO SYLLA, GOS IS MOST DISPLEASED WITH BRAZILIAN LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF SAL. INDEED, HE SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN DAKAR AND BRASILIA WERE STRAINED. GOS HAD PROTESTED TO BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR IN DAKAR WHO CLAIMED HIS HANDS WERE TIED BECAUSE CIVIL AVIATION IN BRAZIL WAS CONTROLLED BY MILITARY.

3. SYLLA ASKED US SUPPORT FOR PROPOSITION TO RETURN DISPUTE BETWEEN SENEGAL AND CAPE VERDE TO BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. HE SAID THAT, DURING PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S RECENT VISIT TO PRAIA (DAKAR 1557), AND DURING MEETINGS OF SENEGAL/CAPE VERDE BILATERAL COMMISSIONS, AGREEMENT SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN REACHED FOR BILATERAL SOLUTION, BUT EACH TIME MATTER WENT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION COUNCILS, CAPE VERDE CHANGED ITS POSITION AND WAS WIDELY SUPPORTED. SYLLA SAID SENEGAL FELT CAPE VERDE WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAKAR 02192 301432Z

ILL-EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND SECURITY FACILITIES WHICH MAINTENANCE OF FIR REQUIRED. DAKAR FIR HAD EXCELLENT TECHNICAL AND SECURITY RECORD AS US GOVT HAD BEEN ABLE TO SEE FOR ITSELF BOTH DURING 1974 GATE EXERCISE AND IN COURSE OF RECENT FAA SURVEY. IN VIEW OF CHANGES IN CAPE VERDE POSITION BETWEEN THAT TAKEN IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND THAT AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS, SYLLA WONDERED WHETHER SOVIETS WERE NOT BEHIND STRONG PUSH TO BREAK UP DAKAR REGION. HE FELT THERE MUST BE SOME POLITICAL MOTIVATION FOR CAPE VERDE POSITION. I TOLD SYLLA THAT I WOULD REPORT HIS DEMARCHE TO WASHINGTON AND THAT WE COULD BE IN TOUCH WITH GOS PRIOR TO APRIL ICAO CONFERENCE.

4. COMMENT: SENEGALESE HAVE DEVOTED EXTRAORDINARY EFFORT TO THIS ISSUE, ATTACKING SAL PROPOSAL AT LIMA ICAO MEETING (DAKAR 0351), CONVENING ASECNA MINISTERS TO OBTAIN THEIR SUPPORT (DAKAR 0634), ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENT DEMARCHE BY ASECNA MEMBERS (NIAMEY 0719, OUAGADOUGOU 0483), AND SENDING DELEGATIONS TO FOURTEEN COUNTRIES INCLUDING US FOR DETAILED

PRESENTATIONS (DAR 0351, STATE 21748). PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS TAKEN STRONG INTEREST AND, ON DAY OF MY MEETING AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, SYLLA HAD CONVOKED NUMEROUS OTHER AMBASSADORS (INCLUDING SOVIET), PRESUMABLY FOR DISCUSSIONS ON SAME SUBJECT. SENECALESE TENACITY SUGGESTS UNDERLYING MOTIVES GOING BEYOND TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS. EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN MAXIMUM REGIONAL IMPORTANCE FOR DAKAR ARE NOTHING NEW, SINCE SENGHOR HAS BEEN RESISTING BALKANIZATION OF FRENCH WEST AFRICA SINCE BEFORE INDEPENDENCE. GOS DRIVE TO PROMOTE DAKAR'S ROLE AS INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION, TOURIST AND CONFERENCE CENTER MAY ENTER IN, ALONG WITH RELATED QUESTION OF REVENUES FROM AIRLINES. SENEGAL MAY ALSO SEE MAINTENANCE OF PRESENT FIR AS HELPING TO PRESERVE DAKAR-BASED ASECNA INSTITUTION. FINALLY, CREATING SAL FIR IN EXISTING DAKAR REGION WOULD FLY IN FACE OF BASIC PREMISE OF SENECALESE FOREIGN POLICY WHICH HOLDS THAT GOOD POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 DAKAR 02192 301432Z

NEIGHBORING STATES CAN BEST BE ENSURED IN LONG RUN BY INVOLVING THEM IN THICKENING WEB OF FUNCTIONAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION CENTERED ON DAKAR. SYLLA'S SPECULATION ABOUT SOVIET INFLUENCE ON CAPE VERDE DEMONSTRATES MULTIPLE LEVELS OF SCRUTINY TO WHICH SENECALESE ARE SUBJECTING POSITIONS TAKEN ON THIS ISSUE BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

5. EMBASSY APPRECIATED REFTEL REPORT ON OUTCOME OF RECENT ANC CONSIDERATION OF CAR/SAM REPORT, AND WOULD WELCOME CLARIFICATION OF HOW CLOSELY SAL FIR PROPOSAL APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS APPROXIMATES CAPE VERDE POSITION, AS WELL AS INDICATION OF WHAT FURTHER PROCEDURAL STEPS REMAIN WITHIN ICAO FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SAL FIR. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO US HOW SENEGAL PLANS TO RETURN ISSUE TO BILATERAL LEVEL AFTER BEING OUTVOTED IN ICAO MEETING, BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO LATEST GOS DEMARCHE.

AGGREY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, CIVIL AVIATION, AIR ROUTES, FLIGHT INFORMATION, MEETING VOTING RECORDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAKAR02192
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770110-0342
Format: TEL
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977038/aaaaaglz.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 84715ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION FAA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MONTREAL 455
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3168107
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAL FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR)
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, SG, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/84715ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009